

Code of Alabama
Alligator Farmer; includes Retailer & Parts Dealer

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Section 9-12-200

Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the meanings described herein, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) ALLIGATOR FARM. An enclosed area not located on public lands or waters, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications prescribed by the department, where alligators are bred and raised under controlled conditions.

(2) ALLIGATOR FARMER. A person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the department.

(3) ALLIGATOR PART. Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except its skin.

(4) ALLIGATOR PARTS DEALER. Any person who deals in alligator parts and who buys from an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail; provided, that a retailer selling canned alligator parts or a retailer purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer or a restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall not be classified as an alligator parts dealer.

(5) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(6) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(7) TRANSPORT. In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §1.)

Section 9-12-201

Who may engage in business of propagating alligators.

Any person, firm, or corporation may engage in the business of propagating alligators on an alligator farm for restocking, propagation, and other commercial purposes by complying with the provisions of this article, and may thereafter sell either live alligators to other licensed alligator farmers only, or the parts or skins of such farm-raised alligators to any person, for any purpose, including sale for food, either within or without this state.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §2.)

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Section 9-12-202

License; fee.

Whoever desires to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting, and selling alligators on alligator farms shall apply to the department for a license to do so. If it appears that the application is made in good faith, upon payment of \$1,000.00, an alligator farmer license may be issued permitting the applicant to breed, propagate, exhibit and sell to other licensed alligator farmers only, such alligators alive, or sell their skins and parts and to kill and transport them and sell their skins and parts as herein provided.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §3.)

Section 9-12-203

Expiration and renewal of license; fee.

Alligator farmer licenses shall expire on the thirtieth day of September of each year. On or before the first day of October of the following year, every licensee shall apply for a renewal of his license. In conjunction with this application, the licensee shall provide a report including all information as specified by the department. Upon payment of \$1,000.00, the department shall renew his license.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §4.)

Section 9-12-204

Marketing or taking of alligators; rules and regulations; tagging; affidavit; transportation of carcass.

Alligators raised on such licensed breeding farms may be sold alive to other licensed alligator farmers only, or taken for their skins or for food, according to such rules and regulations as the department may promulgate. All skins shall be tagged according to rules and regulations of the department. The severance tax, as provided in Section 9-12-210, shall be paid before the raw alligator skins are sold or shipped within or without the state, and a written affidavit as to the number and kinds of skins sold or shipped shall be furnished to the department as specified. No alligator carcass or parts intended for sale shall be shipped, transported, sold, or offered for sale unless tagged according to department regulations.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §5.)

Section 9-12-205

Property rights.

Whoever under the authority of this article has in his lawful possession any such alligators or parts thereof on such posted or fenced alligator farm shall have a property right therein and shall be the owner thereof. Whoever enters the alligator farm and catches, takes, or attempts to catch or take such alligators when the area has been posted or fenced according to law shall be punished as though the alligators were ordinary domestic animals and subject to the property rights of the State of Alabama.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §6.)

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Section 9-12-206

Alligator parts dealer license; retail and restaurant license; fees.

(a) Each alligator parts dealer shall secure an alligator parts dealer license from the department before commencing business. The license shall be secured annually and shall be furnished upon the payment of \$100.00.

(b) Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall secure a license from the department before commencing business. The license shall be secured annually and shall be furnished upon payment of \$5.00.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §7.)

Section 9-12-207

Alligator parts transaction forms; bills of sale; inspection; records.

(a) Any licensed alligator farmer may sell alligator carcasses or parts, provided he completes an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the department, for every alligator parts transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the department at 30-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Any alligator parts dealer purchasing alligator parts, other than skins, shall complete an official alligator parts transaction form for each purchase. Any alligator parts dealer selling alligator parts, other than skins, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the department and shall be submitted to the department at 30-day intervals until final disposition of all parts. Each alligator farmer and parts dealer shall furnish a bill of sale to each retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts.

(c) Any retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase. These records shall be available for inspection at any and all reasonable hours by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources, his law enforcement officers or any other persons appointed and designated by him for such purpose.

(d) The records of transaction involving alligator parts of alligator farmers and parts dealers shall be available for inspection at any and all reasonable hours by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources, his law enforcement officers or any other persons appointed and designated by him for such purpose. Each parts dealer shall maintain complete records for a period of one year following any transaction.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §8.)

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Section 9-12-208

Alligator parts tag.

Each alligator farmer shall tag with an official alligator parts tag, furnished by the department, all carcasses, meat, or nonedible alligator parts prior to sale and upon dissection from the carcass. This tag shall be completed in full and remain attached to the carcass or part until final disposition by the alligator farmer, parts dealer, or consumer if purchased directly from an alligator farmer.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §9.)

Section 9-12-209

Shipment of alligator skins; tags.

All raw alligator skins shipped within this state shall be tagged so as to show the number and kinds of skins in the shipment, the consignor, shipping point, consignee, and destination. The department shall supply suitable tags to all shippers requiring them for actual shipments. No alligator skin intended for shipment within this state shall be accepted by any post office, express company, or agent, or the agent of any common carrier, unless there is attached to one of the packages composing the shipment to each consignee one of the tags specified herein.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §10.)

Section 9-12-210

Severance tax on alligator skins; penalty.

There is hereby levied a severance tax on each alligator skin taken from any alligator within this state, payable to the state through the department by the alligator farmer selling or shipping his skins within or without the state or taking his own catch out of state, at the rate of \$1.00 on each skin. Failure to pay such severance tax subjects all alligator skins held by such alligator farmers to confiscation by order of the department. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the severance tax as provided herein subjects any alligator farmer to the full penalties provided in this article and the immediate revocation of his license by the department. No license shall be issued to any alligator farmer who has not paid such severance tax for the preceding year. Violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §11.)

Section 9-12-211

Taking or possession of alligators, eggs, parts or skins prohibited except as provided; applicability of section; penalty.

No person shall take or possess the eggs of alligators, alligators, or their parts or skins in any county of this state except as provided for in this article, and the provisions of this section shall not apply to legal finished products, alligators or parts thereof legally acquired prior to May 17, 1989,

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or alligators harvested or collected under a permit from the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Violation of this section is a Class C felony.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §12.)

Section 9-12-212

Disbursement of license fees and taxes.

All license fees and taxes resulting from the provisions of this article shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Game and Fish Fund of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §13.)

Section 9-12-213

Effect of federal endangered species status.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in the event the federal government places the alligator in an endangered species status, all licenses issued pursuant to this article shall be null and void upon the earlier of the following dates: (1) the expiration date of said licenses or (2) one year from the date that the federal government placed the alligator in an endangered species status.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §14)

Section 9-12-214

Violations; forfeiture of property and license; eligibility for new license.

Any person licensed as an alligator farmer under Section 9-12-202 convicted of violating any of the provisions of this article shall have his license cancelled and all alligators, alligator parts, and alligator skins in his possession shall be forfeited to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. These shall be disposed of by the department through public auction and the proceeds thereof deposited in the Game and Fish Fund. Any alligator farmer having his license so cancelled will be ineligible to purchase such a license for a period of five years. After five years, said person may purchase an alligator farmer license only on written recommendation of the Director of the Game and Fish Division of the department.

(Acts 1989, No. 89-874, p. 1749, §15.)

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION



Application for Alligator Farmer License

(INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED)

New Application ☐
Renewal ☐

Name: _____

Social Security #: _____ - _____ - _____ Drivers License # _____

Date of Birth: _____ email: _____

Sex: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____ Eyes: _____ Hair: _____

Home Address: _____

County: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____ Work (____) _____ - _____

Business Name if Applicable: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

County: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Estimated number of alligators on farm this year? _____

The license year is from October 1 to September 30.
An annual fee of \$1,000 is required for an Alligator Farmer License.

Submit: (1) **completed application**, (2) **check or money order**, and (3) **drivers license copy** to:
Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn: License
Sales, PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456, or by walk-in or express mail requests:
64 N Union Street, Ste 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-3465 or joeanne.stjohn@dcnr.alabama.gov.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

C.E.O. Approved: _____ Date: _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

License Number: _____ Issued by: _____

Amount Received: _____ Date Issued: _____

DCNR IS NOW REQUIRED BY SECTION 30-3-194(A) CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 TO COLLECT
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON ALL RECREATIONAL LICENSES BEING ISSUED/RENEWED.